



CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

72-HOUR REPORT

16 OCTOBER 2017

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Petaluma – CHP Warns Against Drone Use after Reports of Activity

(U) Drone owners were warned against using drones in active fire areas yesterday, as the CHP Santa Rosa issued a statement on its Facebook page asking that all drones be grounded. Cal Fire reported drones in the Petaluma area, potentially stopping firefighting planes from continuing aerial operations. In 2016, the Department of the Interior stated that a reported 42 drones were found invading airspace where firefighting was taking place. When drones are spotted in an area where aerial firefighting operations are set to take place, the decision can be made to ground planes until the drones are cleared. SOURCE: 15 October 2017, [SF Gate](#)

(U) Sacramento – California Declares State of Emergency over Hepatitis A Outbreak

(U) Governor Brown has declared a state of emergency on 13 October following a hepatitis A outbreak that has killed at least 18 people in the state. The declaration allows state health officials to buy additional doses of the hepatitis A vaccine to try to halt the outbreak, which is already the nation's second largest in more than two decades. The outbreak began in San Diego's homeless community late last year, but has since spread outside the region. Los Angeles and Santa Cruz counties are also now experiencing outbreaks.

SOURCE: 13 October 2017, [Los Angeles Times](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) District of Columbia – FBI Director Warns Against Restricting NSA Surveillance Program

(U) Washington – FBI Director Christopher Wray warned that changing the rules of a soon-to-expire surveillance program could create new barriers to preventing terrorist attacks, similar to those that existed before 2001. The Director defending the FBI's information-sharing program with the National Security Agency (NSA), saying that his agents get just a small piece of the NSA's intelligence gathering.

SOURCE: 13 October 2017, [Washington Post](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Canada – Drone Hits Passenger Plane in Canada

(U) Quebec City – A drone crashed into a commercial airplane in Canada, the first time such an incident has occurred in the country, according to authorities. A plane operated by charter airline Skyjet was approaching Quebec City's Jean Lesage International Airport on 12 October when a drone struck one of its wings. There were six passengers and two crew members aboard the plane, which sustained minor damage and was able to land safely. Earlier this year, Canada announced safety measures making it illegal to fly recreational drones within 3.5 miles of an airport, and restricting the height of a drone's flight to 300 feet.

SOURCE: 16 October 2017, [CNN](#)

(U) Guatemala – MS-13 ‘Gang Leader’ Blanco Captured in Guatemala

(U) Chimaltenango – Police in Guatemala say they have captured a leader of the Mara Salvatrucha, or MS-13, street gang. The police tweeted that Angel Gabriel Reyes Marroquin, known as Blanco, was found in the town of Chimaltenango, 31 miles west of the capital. He was reportedly wanted in connection with a gun attack on a hospital two months ago in which seven people were killed. The gang operates internationally and was linked to the killings by machete of two girls in New York this year.

SOURCE: 14 October 2017, [BBC](#)

(U) Philippines – ISIS-Affiliated Leaders Killed in Southern Philippines

(U) Manila – Two key ISIS-affiliated leaders engaged in a standoff with Philippines forces in the southern city of Marawi have been killed, the country’s defense secretary announced today. The two leaders were named as Isnilon Hapilon, who was declared the ISIS emir for Southeast Asia, and Omar Maute, a leader of a local militant group that had pledged allegiance to ISIS. They were killed, along with seven other militants, while attempting to exit a building during a four-hour firefight. More than 800 militants and 162 government security forces have been killed in the nearly 150 days of fighting, and about 1,700 hostages have been rescued.

SOURCE: 16 October 2017, [CNN](#)

(U) Somalia – Mogadishu Truck Bombings Are Deadliest Attack in Decades

(U) Mogadishu – A double truck bombing on 14 October killed more than 270 people and injured at least 300 people, according to government officials. The attack came as the United States made a renewed push to defeat al-Shabab, a Somali-based terrorist group who has conducted attacks in the region for years. Some of the militants reportedly have proclaimed allegiance to al-Qa’ida, while others support ISIS. Analysts believe the latest attack might have been in retaliation both for the loss of territory and for increasing American drone attacks.

SOURCE: 15 October 2017, [New York Times](#)

(U) Switzerland – Nigeria to Start Trial of 2,300 Accused of Belonging to Boko Haram

(U) Geneva – Nigeria is set to try 2,300 people accused of belonging to the terrorist organization Boko Haram. All the defendants will be tried according to anti-terrorism laws, either individually or in groups, depending on the crimes they are accused of committing. The trials will be conducted by a civilian court set up at a military base. The United Nations’ Office for Human Rights welcomed the decision to start the trials, as some defendants have been held in prolonged pre-trial detention since 2009.

SOURCE: 14 October 2017, [Latin American Herald Tribune](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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